

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5062
INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, NL, VN

SUBJECT: AMSTERDAM PROPOSES TO INCLUDE NEW YORK HANOI IN SEVEN CITIES CONFERENCE IN JUNE 1975

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHICH TO BASE RESPONSE TO AMSTERDAM MAYOR'S INQUIRY WHETHER HIS CITY'S PLAN TO HOLD CONFERENCE OF SEVEN CITIES, INCLUDING NEW YORK AND HANOI, IN AMSTERDAM THIS JUNE WILL RAISE POLITICAL PROBLEMS. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS DEPT. ALSO PROVIDE ITS VIEWS ON THIS MATTER TO COMMISSIONER DUKE OF CITY OF NEW YORK. END SUMMARY.

2. MAYOR SAMKALDEN OF AMSTERDAM HAS INFORMED AMBASSADOR OF HIS CITY'S PLAN TO HOST CONFERENCE OF MAYORS OF MOSCOW, NEW YORK, HANOI, JAKARTA, JERUSALEM AND TORONTO IN MID-JUNE, 1975, WHICH WOULD FOLLOW "BIG CITIES OF THE WORLD" MEETING IN PARIS EARLIER IN JUNE. AMSTERDAM CONFERENCE WOULD BE PRELUDE TO UN'S "HABITAT CONFERENCE 1976" IN NEW YORK AND BE HELD IN CONTEXT OF 700TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMSTERDAM'S FOUNDRING.

3. SAMKALDEN SAID ORAL INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO MOST CITIES INVOLVED, INCLUDING NEW YORK--THROUGH

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FORMER AMBASSADOR ANGIER BIDDLE DUKE DURING HIS RECENT VISIT

TO NETHERLANDS AS NEW YORK CITY COMMISSIONER OF CIVIC AFFAIRS
AND PUBLIC EVENTS AND INQUIRED WHETHER HIS COLLECTION OF
DIVERSE CITIES WOULD POSE ANY POLITICAL PROBLEMS. HE
INDICATED IT WAS NOT IMPERATIVE THAT HANOI ATTEND.

4. AMBASSADOR GOULD ADVISED SAMKALDEN THAT IN LIGHT
OF HANOI'S SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF PARIS ACCORD IT WAS
POSSIBLE US WOULD NOT WANT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH HANOI
AT A MEETING, ALBEIT OF MAYORS, AND THAT HE WOULD SEEK
WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO SAMKALDEN'S INQUIRY.

5. SAMKALDEN HAD EARLIER TOLD DUKE THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY
ANXIOUS TO HAVE MAYOR BEAME ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AND
WOULD THEREFORE TIME IT TO SUIT BEAME'S CONVENIENCE.
DUKE INFORMED THE DCM THAT HE FAVORED BEAME'S PARTICIPATION,
BUT WOULD FOLLOW DCM'S ADVICE TO SEEK POLICY GUIDANCE ON
THE HANOI ANGLE FROM THE DEPT. (IT IS UNDERSTOOD BEAME WILL
BE ATTENDING THE PARIS CONFERENCE OF CITIES IN EARLY
JUNE AND BE TRAVELING ELSEWHERE ABROAD AT THAT TIME.)
GOULD

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